

1: What You and Your Cat Need to Know About Cat Flu | PetHelpful

So if you find that your cat doesn't seem inclined to play with its vertical post, you might need to trudge back to the store for a horizontal post. If you are not sure what to get, this is a great a great scratching post from Amazon [here](#).

The main disadvantage a cat infected with cat flu has is that it becomes more susceptible to secondary infections. If you think your cat has the flu, please speak to a vet to prevent it from reaching that stage. The cat flu can make it a lot more difficult for a cat to recover from a secondary infection in the long run. This secondary infection could be a factor that contributes to the death of your pet. There are three strains of the cat flu virus: Anyone who owns a cat needs to realise that most likely their cat is a carrier of the virus. This does not mean your pet is ill, it just means the virus is in its system. Spreading by Carriers A cat that has become infected with the virus is a carrier. It will be very contagious to other cats that are already in your home and in the surrounding areas where you live. The cat itself might actually not experience the symptoms of cat flu, but at certain times it might pass it on to another cat. A few typical ways the virus spreads include: This might be due to fighting where the carrier bites the other cat. The saliva of the carrier cat can also pass on the bacteria. So if cats were eating from the same bowl and cleaning eat other, this is a sure way for the virus to spread. If an infected cat sprays its urine in certain areas, another cat who breathes in this scent could inadvertently become infected with the virus. This cat will then suffer the cat flu symptoms which could lead to their death. Unwell Kittens Click thumbnail to view full-size Kittens can contract cat flu in catteries. Source Kittens who are kept together can spread viruses to each other. It was passed on to it when it was a kitten by its mother who was already infected with the virus. In many cases kittens, if very weak, might die from the cat flu. The second way they can catch the virus is from another infected cat who is a carrier. The only way to stop your cat from contracting cat flu is to keep it away from other cats. The best way to do that is to keep them indoors. It just helps reduce the symptoms that will occur if your cat gets the virus. The best way to avoid your own pet cat from catching the virus is to keep it indoors and away from infected cats. Symptoms Signs you should look for to determine whether your cat is in fact affected by cat flu include the following: This eventually leads to loss of strength and weakness. If your once active cat now spends all day in its bed sneezing and acting like it is sad and depressed, then chances are your pet has the cat flu. So bringing your cat to the vet to get a diagnosis is a must. Of the three virus strains mentioned above, Feline Herpes Virus, Feline Calicivirus, and Feline Chlamydia, you will find that the first two will probably be the virus your cat will be diagnosed with. These are the two most common types of respiratory tract viruses out there. Feline Calicivirus might only present itself when you realise that your cat has mouth ulcers either on the tongue or the roof of the mouth. They might also have nasal discharge, but this will be milder than what you may expect. Feline Chlamydia will usually present itself at first as an eye infection, and your cat might not experience any of the other symptoms. Veterinarian Visit A visit to your veterinarian is essential to confirm your cat has cat flu. Source Getting a Diagnosis To determine whether your cat has the cat flu, your vet will take a blood test. Once he or she has determined that your cat is indeed suffering from the cat flu, the vet will give your cat a shot. This shot is to help the cat recover their appetite. Your vet will also give it some antibiotics if it is suffering from a secondary infection it may have picked up while weakened by the cat flu virus. Entice Your Pet Try to entice your sick cat to eat food by itself by using food with a strong smell. Fish would be a good start as it can be quite strong. Tuna or sardines could be a good choice to pick. Get tuna in oil or brine and mash it up with a fork. Be gentle and understanding if you need to do this. Plan out a schedule that will give you plenty of time to feed your pet, especially if you have work each day. Determining how long it should take your cat to recover from cat flu is hard, and takes time—some say three weeks while others say seven. It really depends on the cat. If your pet is young and strong, then chances are it will be able to fight the virus and should get better after a few weeks. However, if you have a young kitten or an older cat, its immune system might not be as strong, and its health could very well start going downhill very quickly. The booster shots which are given to encourage the cat to start eating might only work for a short period of time and then the pet might start losing strength once more. Prevent the Spread of Cat Flu in Your House If one of your cats is diagnosed with

cat flu, then you need to quarantine it from other house cats. Wash bowls from cats separately and disinfect the bowls of the sick cat. If you handle the sick cat, ensure that you wash your hands afterward. This is to prevent the spread of hidden germs on your clothing. Protect and look after it, and it will live a long and happy life. Source Ways to Aid Recovery If your cat is suffering from cat flu, then you might need to do something to help it get better. Give lots of attention. Try using a few drops of echinacea herbal tincture to help its immune system get stronger. This tincture usually presents no problems, but consult your vet beforehand. Bring your cat into the bathroom and allow the steam from the shower to help with the clearing of its sinuses. All you can do for a cat with cat flu is be there for it and try everything you can to help it get better. Most cats can recover. Unfortunately, if cats get a secondary infection, tumor, or weakened immune system, you need to be prepared for things to not work out. It is not meant to substitute for diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, prescription, or formal and individualized advice from a veterinary medical professional. Animals exhibiting signs and symptoms of distress should be seen by a veterinarian immediately.

2: Basic Indoor Cat Needs | Indoor Pet Initiative

Your cat(s) might not need all these features to get along, but making your house more "cat friendly" will ensure that you and your cat enjoy each other's company for years to come. Informed Owners As an owner one of the most important things you can do for you cat is to educate yourself about feline idiosyncrasies.

As its name says, the SureFeed Bowl keeps the food sealed with a rubber gasket on the bowl, keeping the food sealed and reducing pet food odor in the house. This door opens when an infrared sensor located on the front and sides of the bowl. The SureFeed bowl is suitable for small pets and cats. Battery life up to 6 months. Battery life indicator The feeder comes with one grey bowl included Extra bowls in beautiful colors available to purchase separately Overall size feeder: Up to ml 14fl oz of food 2 pouches of wet cat food approx. When your pet approaches the feeder, the infrared sensor located in front or sides of the bowl detects the presence of your pet and automatically the folding hinged lid folds opens, leaving the bowl uncovered. This door will remain open as long as your pet is eating from the bowl. These are infrared motion sensors and they are located in front and top sides of the bowl. These sensors will detect any movement within their range. This button overrides the sensor this way you can keep the lid open. By pushing this button the feeder will have limited movements on several stages until your cat feels confident to use it with the sensors fully operating. The battery light indicator will flash if the batteries are low or if there is a problem with the way they have been inserted. The buttons and battery light indicator are located on the back of the feeder. This way you can buy the pink for your furry girl or the blue for your boy. Also, by purchasing extra bowls you can have backups while you are washing the bowl in use. The Split Bowl helps you to place different foods, for example, dry and wet food. The single bowl allows you to put more food of the same type. All SureFeed bowls feature an integrated seal on the top edge to reduce odors and keep bugs away from the food. With rubber on bowl edges to keep the food sealed when in contact with the transparent lid. The mat fits perfectly with the SureFeed Pet Bowl. This way the motion sensors can correctly calibrate the sensors need to readjust to their surroundings every time the bowl is moved. Try to place it away from objects that could create unwanted activations. Cats that eat small amounts of food at a time, leaving always food in the bowl.

3: A Purrfect Start | Indoor Pet Initiative

I have read it (and all of them, including What Your Dog, Rabbit, Fish, Horse, Bird Needs) many times, and just bought a nice scratching post for our cat the other day after reading what this book said about it.

But what if your cat needs one? The options for doing so if your cat or dog has kidney failure now include getting him an organ transplant. Veterinarians do blood testing to ensure the cats are compatible and most cats are a good match, according to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at the University of Wisconsin. How to find an organ donor Humans have the United Network for Organ Sharing to help match donors with people who need an organ. But finding an organ donor for your pet is trickier business. Depending on your location, the vet may be able to point you to a specialist or pet transplant facility. Your options may come down to: Adopting a shelter cat. A cat scheduled to be euthanized at an animal shelter may be a solution. Taking a kidney from your healthy cat if you have one. The cat should be at least a year old but young and in good health. Contacting a research vendor to find a cat bred for the purpose of being a kidney donor and possibly adopting that cat. Is your cat eligible for a transplant? And as with people, your pet will have to be in fairly good shape to have the transplant. Pets live an average of two more years after the surgery, according to the college. Asked what resistance, if any, Ramachandran has encountered to the idea of pet transplants, he says pet owners have been very supportive. We cannot thank donors and their families enough for being a part of this program. How To Provide For Your Pet After You Die Other types of organ donations If your dog or cat has a leg injured beyond repair by bone cancer or after being hit by a car, you might want to check with your vet about a transplant. Some bone banks for animals keep donated animal bones in a freezer so they can be used in bone grafts and repair. If your dog or cat is close to losing his sight from an injury or tumor, your vet may know where to find a cornea that was donated by bereaved owners. Luke James is a freelance writer and musician who writes about music, soccer, kids, pets and life with his family in northern California.

4: Cat Equipment Basics - What You Need | VetBabble

Your cat's needs are similar and you want to make sure you have an environment that makes your cat feel comfortable. Five Items for a Secure Environment for Your Cat Food - Predictable meal times and individual food bowls for each cat in your household.

Tumblr Bringing a new kitten home soon? Your kitten will quickly grow into an adult cat, and with a bit of luck, the two of you will be best friends for many years to come. You can get the relationship off to a great start and ease the nerves of both human and furball! No poop-scooping missions in your backyard will be necessary. A litter box can be as simple as a plain plastic tray, or as complex as an automated poop-handler. Whatever works best for your budget and preferences will be fine. But when it comes to the litter that goes in the box well, your cat might have a say in what you use. If you notice your cat exhibiting some reluctance in using the litter box, it may be because of the litter. It might take experimenting with a few brands before kitty is content, but then all will be well. Whatever you buy should be soft and warm. It might be as simple as a pillow, but lots of cats show a preference for nest-type beds usually shaped somewhat like a donut. They need to scratch. The only question is: What will your cat scratch? But here are a few tips for buying a just right scratching post for your pet: It should be sturdy and stable. A cat can hit a post hard in a vigorous play attack, so you want to be sure that the post will remain in place and upright. A rubber base might be helpful. It should be tall. In general, something in the range of 25 to 30 inches will probably be about right. It should probably be vertical. Most cats like vertical scratching posts. But a few seem to prefer horizontal scratching posts. If you are not sure what to get, this is a great great scratching post from Amazon here. Stainless steel bowls are the favorites among vets because they are easy to clean and sterilize. Glass and ceramic are also popular. Plastic bowls are also more likely to be host to a kind of bacteria that can cause a type of feline acne. The cat will be more comfortable if it can easily reach the food. Cat toys are great playtime tools, and just about any purpose-built toy that your cat enjoys will be fine. Anything smaller than a ping-pong ball should be considered a potential choking threat. Those safety features could prevent your cat from becoming helplessly stuck should its collar should become snagged on something. And of course you should have an identification tag on the collar. Be sure to also buy a cat carrier. A loose cat in a car is NOT a good thing! Just make sure that the carrier you choose is well ventilated and sturdy. Many people often enjoy watching their cat when they cannot be around and play with them from afar. One of the most popular of these devices is the PetCube see on Amazon here. The PetCube has a camera and lets you interact with your cat with a laser. Additionally there are Smart Bowls which can help you weigh the food of your cat to make sure you are not overfeeding, as well as automatic feeders. However, they are not perfect and simply marking your cup for how much to feed each day and scooping it out of the bag is also very reliable and the preferred method by many people.

5: CatBlog: Nutrients your cat needs! – PetSaver Healthy Pet SuperStore

Regarding your cat's vaccinations – and overall health and needs – you should make sure to let your vet know if any of the following changes have occurred since your cat's previous wellness exam, or will be occurring within the next several months.

Nutrients your cat needs! Nutrients are substances obtained from food and used by an animal as a source of energy and as part of the metabolic machinery necessary for maintenance and growth. Barring any special needs, illness-related deficiencies or instructions from your vet, your pets should be able to get all the nutrients they need from high-quality food from PetSaver Superstore, which are often formulated with these special standards in mind. Water is the most important nutrient. A deficiency of water may have serious repercussions for pets: Proteins are the basic building blocks for cells, tissues, organs, enzymes, hormones and antibodies, and are essential for growth, maintenance, reproduction and repair. Proteins can be obtained from a number of sources. Animal-based proteins such as chicken, lamb, turkey, beef, fish and egg have complete amino acid profiles. Do not give your pet raw eggs. Raw egg white contains avidin, an anti-vitamin that interferes with the metabolism of fats, glucose, amino acids and energy. Protein is also found in vegetables, cereals and soy, but these are considered incomplete proteins. Amino acids are the building blocks of proteins, and are divided into essential and non-essential amino acids: Unlike dogs, cats cannot synthesize enough taurine to meet their needs. Taurine is required for the prevention of eye and heart disease, as well as reproduction, fetal growth and survival. This essential amino acid is only found in foods of animal origin, such as meat, eggs and fish. Fats are the most concentrated form of food energy, providing your pet with more than twice the energy of proteins or carbohydrates. Fats are essential in the structure of cells and are needed for the production of some hormones. They are required for absorption and utilization of fat-soluble vitamins. Fats provide the body insulation and protection for internal organs. A deficiency of essential fatty acids may result in reduced growth or increased skin problems. Linoleic acid is an essential fatty acid for cats. Arachidonic acid, an omega-6 fatty acid, is also essential for cats for the maintenance of the skin and coat, for kidney function and for reproduction. Replacing some omega-6 with omega-3 fatty acids can lessen an inflammatory reaction—whether it is in the skin due to allergies, the joints from arthritis, the intestines from inflammatory bowel disease or even in the kidneys from progressive renal failure. It is impossible to accurately determine the fatty acid ratio of a diet if the owner prepares home-cooked foods. While there is no minimum carbohydrate requirement, there is a minimum glucose requirement necessary to supply energy to critical organs. Fibers are kinds of carbohydrates that modify the mix of the bacterial population in the small intestine, which can help manage chronic diarrhea. For cats to obtain the most benefit from fiber, the fiber source must be moderately fermentable. Fiber sources that have low fermentability e. Highly fermentable fibers can produce gases and by-products that can lead to flatulence and excess mucus. Moderately fermentable fibers—including beet pulp, which is commonly used in cat foods—are best, as they promote a healthy gut while avoiding the undesirable side effects. Other examples of moderately fermentable fibers include brans corn, rice and wheat and wheat middlings. Foods that are high in fiber are not good for cats with high energy requirements, such as those who are young and growing. Vitamins are catalysts for enzyme reactions. Tiny amounts of vitamins are essential to cats for normal metabolic functioning. Most vitamins cannot be synthesized in the body, and therefore are essential in the diet. Due to the practice of over supplementation, hypervitaminosis—poisoning due to excess vitamins—is more common these days than hypovitaminosis, or vitamin deficiency! Excess vitamin A may result in bone and joint pain, brittle bones and dry skin. Excess vitamin D may result in very dense bones, soft tissue calcification and joint calcification. Minerals are inorganic compounds that are not metabolized and yield no energy. These nutrients cannot be synthesized by animals and must be provided in the diet. In general, minerals are most important as structural constituents of bones and teeth, for maintaining fluid balance and for their involvement in many metabolic reactions.

6: 5 Signs Your Cat Needs a Pet Fountain – ThirstyPets

If your cat meows excessively, follows you around, and generally won't leave you alone, it could be a sign that she needs more social interaction, says Pam Johnson-Bennett, a certified cat behavior consultant and owner of Cat Behavior Associates in Nashville.

Vaccinate Before Boarding Boarding facilities place animals from different households in close proximity, increasing the risk of passing on infections. This makes vaccinations an essential part of preparing your pet for boarding. Vaccinations help protect your pet by stimulating their body to produce antibodies to specific contagious and often lethal diseases. If your pet should later come in to contact with a disease they are vaccinated against the antibodies will protect them. Vaccinations may be given over a week course and immunity may take days or weeks to develop afterwards. You should consult with the boarding facility and your vet in advance to find out the requirements and timescale involved for vaccinations. Vaccinations for Dogs Routine vaccinations for dogs usually protect against Parvovirus, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis and Distemper. Many dogs receive these vaccinations as puppies and then further booster vaccinations throughout their lives. Some vaccinations need annual boosters others have a three-year life. If your dog has not been vaccinated before, then they cannot be boarded in kennels until days after vaccination. Vaccines against Kennel Cough are often not part of a routine vaccination programme unless you plan to place your dog in boarding kennels. Kennel Cough can have several causes but the main culprits are Bordetella Bronchiseptica and Canine Parainfluenza. There are two vaccines available, Nobivac KC which protects against both forms and Intrac which is a nasal spray and protects against Bordetella Bronchiseptica. Dogs cannot be boarded until days after vaccination and preferably at least two weeks. Nobivac KC provides immunity for one year and Intrac for six months. Search Boarding Kennels Vaccinations for Cats Different combinations of vaccinations are available for cats, so you will need to check with your vet what diseases your cat is protected against. Your cat may also be protected against Chlamydia and Feline Leukaemia Virus FeLV , otherwise you can arrange these vaccinations separately. A vaccination is also available for Bordetella Bronchiseptica another respiratory infection. As this is a common cause of Kennel Cough in dogs, it is particularly relevant if you board your cat at a cattery that also boards dogs. All vaccinations require annual boosters and cats should not be boarded until two weeks after vaccination. The vaccinations should be given at least two weeks prior to boarding and require boosters at least annually.

7: SureFeed Sealed Pet Bowl Review - Is What Your Cat Needs?

The Five Vaccines Your Cat Needs the Most. by Jessica Vogelsang, DVM. When it comes to medicine, there is no "one size fits all" approach. This is particularly important when it comes to preventive care recommendations for our feline friends.

Read on for important nutrition tips to help keep your feline friend healthy. Nutrients Your Cat Needs

Nutrients are substances obtained from food and used by an animal as a source of energy and as part of the metabolic machinery necessary for maintenance and growth. Barring any special needs, illness-related deficiencies or instructions from your vet, your pets should be able to get all the nutrients they need from high-quality commercial pet foods, which are formulated with these special standards in mind. Here are the six essential classes of nutrients fundamental for healthy living. Expand to read more

Water is the most important nutrient. A deficiency of water can cause serious illness or even death. Proteins are the basic building blocks for cells, tissues, organs, enzymes, hormones and antibodies, and are essential for growth, maintenance, reproduction and repair. Proteins can be obtained from a number of sources. Animal-based proteins have complete amino acid profiles. Do not give your pet raw eggs. Protein is also found in vegetables, cereals and soy, but these are considered incomplete proteins. Amino acids are the building blocks of proteins, and are divided into essential and non-essential amino acids: Essential amino acids cannot be synthesized by the animal in sufficient quantities and MUST be supplied in the diet. Non-essential amino acids can be synthesized by your pet and are not needed in the diet. Taurine is required for the prevention of eye and heart disease, as well as reproduction, fetal growth and survival. This essential amino acid is only found in foods of animal origin, such as meat, eggs and fish. Fats are essential in the structure of cells and are needed for the production of some hormones. They are required for absorption and utilization of fat-soluble vitamins. Fats provide the body insulation and protection for internal organs. Linoleic acid is an essential fatty acid for cats. Arachidonic acid, an omega-6 fatty acid, is also essential for cats for the maintenance of the skin and coat, for kidney function and for reproduction. Omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids play a vital role in healing inflammation. Replacing some omega-6 with omega-3 fatty acids can lessen an inflammatory reaction—whether it is in the skin due to allergies, the joints from arthritis, the intestines from inflammatory bowel disease or even in the kidneys from progressive renal failure. While there is no minimum carbohydrate requirement, there is a minimum glucose requirement necessary to supply energy to critical organs.

Fibers are kinds of carbohydrates that modify the mix of the bacterial population in the small intestine, which can help manage chronic diarrhea. For cats to obtain the most benefit from fiber, the fiber source must be moderately fermentable. Foods that are high in fiber are not good for cats with high energy requirements, such as those who are young and growing. Vitamins are catalysts for enzyme reactions. Tiny amounts of vitamins are essential to cats for normal metabolic functioning. Most vitamins cannot be synthesized in the body, and therefore are essential in the diet. When feeding a complete and balanced diet, it is unnecessary to give a vitamin or mineral supplement unless a specific deficiency is diagnosed by a veterinarian. Over supplementation can result in poisoning with some key vitamins and minerals! Minerals are inorganic compounds that are not metabolized and yield no energy. These nutrients cannot be synthesized by animals and must be provided in the diet. In general, minerals are most important as structural constituents of bones and teeth, for maintaining fluid balance and for their involvement in many metabolic reactions. Read on for tips for making the transition. If you find yourself in this situation, contact your veterinarian for product and feeding recommendations. This rapid growth will continue, albeit at a decreasing rate, until maturity. Large amounts of energy and nutrients are required in balanced quantities to support this spectacular growth. Kittens need large amounts of energy—about two to three times that of an adult cat. Make sure the food you offer is specifically formulated for kittens. Your pet will need to eat kitten-formula food until she reaches maturity, at about one year of age. This process of gradually introducing kitten food is important in training cats to eat as they are weaned. Most mother cats will suckle their kittens until about eight weeks of age. Kittens can be fed free-choice—which means food is available at all times, as much as the pet wants, whenever the pet wants.

You can feed them dry kitten food or nutrient-dense kitten-formula canned food—however, the free-choice method is most appropriate when feeding dry food, which will not spoil if left out. Also, make sure fresh water is available at all times. At first, curious kittens will probably want to play with their food rather than eat it, but the youngsters will soon catch on and realize they are supposed to eat the food, not just bat it around! Ideally, weaning is handled entirely by the mother cat. However, if the kitten in your care has been separated from his mother or if you are fostering a litter or a pregnant cat about to give birth, seeing the young ones through a successful weaning process may be up to you. Expand to read more [When to Wean a Kitten](#) The weaning process normally begins when kittens are around four weeks old, and is usually completed when they reach eight to ten weeks. If you are in charge of weaning an orphaned kitten, please remember that weaning should not be attempted at too early of an age. Whenever possible, kittens should remain with their mother during the weaning process, as she will inherently know what to do. Put them in their own special area with a litter box and food and water bowls. As the kittens become more independent, they can spend more time away from their mother until they are completely weaned. Dip your fingertip or the syringe or bottle the kitten is used to nursing from into the liquid, let the kitten lick it, then guide him by moving your finger down into the bowl. Please do not push his nose into the bowl. He may inhale the liquid and develop pneumonia or other lung problems. Though you should continue to bottle-feed while the kitten is learning to eat from the bowl, you can help with the gradual transition by always offering the bowl first, and then the bottle. As the kitten gets accustomed to eating, gradually decrease the amount of milk replacer you add, while slowly increasing the amount of kitten food. By five to six weeks, he should be eating only lightly moistened food. Now you can start to leave out small amounts of dry food and fresh water at all times. By eight to 10 weeks, kittens should be accustomed to eating unmoistened kitten food. Weaning an Orphaned Kitten Generally, orphaned or hand-fed kittens can begin weaning slightly earlier, at about three weeks of age, but otherwise the process is essentially the same. Begin by offering milk replacer in a dish, teaching the kitten how to lap from the dish. Gradually transition to a gruel described above. As the kitten slowly grows accustomed to eating, gradually reduce the amount of milk replacer you use. By five to six weeks of age, he should be relying solely on kitten food for his nutrients.

Adult Cats Adult cats should eat enough of a high-quality, nutritious food to meet their energy needs and to maintain and repair body tissues. The amount you feed your adult cat should be based on his or her size and energy output. Activity levels vary dramatically between pets and will play an important role in determining caloric intake. Expand to read more [A cat with a "normal" activity level](#) should receive what we call "maintenance" energy. Your cat should always have free access to fresh, clean water. Water bowls should be cleaned every day. All cats require taurine, an amino acid that is important for normal heart function, vision and reproduction. Since taurine is found only in animal-based protein, all cats need meat-based diets to meet their nutritional requirements. A cat recovering from surgery or suffering from a disease may have increased nutritional requirements to repair, heal and fight infection. As a general rule of thumb, we recommend that all cats be fed twice daily using the portion control feeding method see below. Pet owners should consult with their veterinarians to determine the best feeding schedule and types of foods for their pets. The different types of feeding methods are as follows: This method is used for weight control programs and for animals who might overeat if fed free-choice. Food can be provided in one or more meals daily. The timed feeding method involves making a portion of food available for the pet to eat for a specified period of time. After that time, whatever food the cat has not eaten is removed. Free-choice feeding is also known as "ad lib" feeding or "free feeding. This method is most appropriate when feeding dry food, which will not spoil if left out. However, some cats will overeat when fed free-choice, which can result in obesity. Milk should not be fed to cats as a treat or a substitute for water. Cats do not possess significant amounts of lactase, the enzyme that breaks down lactose in milk. Feeding milk and milk-based products to cats can actually cause them to vomit or have diarrhea. The rest should come from a nutritionally complete cat food.

Senior Cats Cats begin to show visible age-related changes at about seven to twelve years of age. There are metabolic, immunologic and body composition changes, too. Some of these are unavoidable. Others can be managed with diet. Expand to read more [Start your cat on a senior diet](#) at about seven years of age. The main objectives in the feeding an older cat should be to maintain health and optimum body weight, slow or prevent

the development of chronic disease, and minimize or improve clinical signs of diseases that may already be present. As a cat ages, health issues may arise, including: Deterioration of skin and coat Loss of muscle mass.

8: Vaccinations Your Pet Needs to Stay at a Boarding Kennel or Cattery - Advice from Find Pet Boarding

Your pet needs Vitamin A, B Vitamins, Vitamin C, Vitamin D, Vitamin E, and Vitamin K to support a variety of bodily functions. Primal provides vitamins to your pets using diverse whole food ingredients to maximize absorption.

This post was originally published on January 28, We are republishing it for your reading pleasure. Most pet guardians recognize the obvious signs of a pet in distress and would seek veterinary care for all the obvious signs of illness or injury such as bleeding or an animal who can not stand. But what about the more subtle signs that your pet needs help? Every species has its one code, its own tell-tale signs of trouble, and in the animal kingdom, communication can be cryptic to the human eye. Maggie, the year-old calico cat, was always a quiet girl. She preferred to spend most of the day sleeping in a wicker basket. So when Maggie began exploring the house more, particularly at night, her family was thrilled to see her becoming more active. Turns out, Maggie was suffering from a brain tumor that was giving her severe headaches. The pacing was her response to the pain. What looked like a wonderful new sense of exploration, was actually the manifestation of severe illness. Restlessness can be a firm indicator of pain or anxiety. Bunny may be trying to get your attention. Read a complete list of bunny health warning signs here. In dogs and cats, frequent barking or meowing that is uncharacteristic for your pet could be a sign of distress. Any time your pet is persistently turning to you for attention and you are unable to satisfy this pleading with food, water or a walk outdoors, you could be looking at a pet who is in need of care. In iguanas, face rubbing is a problem and can lead to injury from abrasive metal cages. Environmental changes, health issues or a small cage can provoke the behavior. A pet bird who sits with his feathers ruffled out for a long period of time may be suffering respiratory illness. See a complete list of bird health warning signs here. In rabbits, a hunched and hunkered down posture can indicate stasis, a painful and potentially deadly slow-down of the gastrointestinal tract which is common to rabbits and requires immediate veterinary intervention. Watch for changes in body language. Rabbits are prone to lacerations from tooth spurs as well as a condition called stasis, an urgent slow down of their digestive tract. A dog who begins to hesitate before jumping into the car or onto the bed may be experiencing arthritis, hip dysplasia or even early signs of neurological disease. Climbing stairs and getting into the car became difficult for Alex. In fact, one cat who recently swallowed a long piece of string that was constricting his intestines was simply noted to be sitting quietly and not bouncing around as he usually does. This change had only begun that morning, but his eyes seemed to say something is wrong, and fortunately his very astute guardian rushed him to the vet where an x-ray revealed the foreign body and emergency surgery saved his life. Frequent urination can indicate a variety of sneaky and serious health issues ranging from diabetes to urinary tract infection to kidney failure. In fact, in male cats, blockage of the urinary tract can suddenly occur and your cat will be unable to urinate despite desperate attempts. If your litter box is out of sight, you will not notice these red flags. You must see how often your cat is visiting the box. Changes in bowel movements can indicate anything from simple parasitic infection to intestinal disease to gastrointestinal hemorrhaging. Black poo, poo with red blood or diarrhea that persists are all reasons to see the vet. How to Assess Dog Poo Make sure you are able to observe the urinary habits of your pet. Geriatric pets are not the only ones who can suffer from dental diseases. Even in kittens as young as four months old, severe dental disease can be present as a result of common viruses and severe pain, even exposed nerves, can evolve quickly. First, see your vet to find out if your pet has abscesses, broken teeth, gingival complications or other oral health conditions that could be causing pain and opening the window to additional disease of major organs including the heart. More on pet dental health. Bad breath is a sign of illness. Sometimes food allergies, environmental allergies or external parasites cause itching. Particularly if you pet is itching at his ears and wincing, painful ear mites or yeast overgrowth may be present. Pay close attention to the subtle signs and follow your intuition. Brought to you by the Harmony Fund international animal rescue charity.

9: Cat Nutrition Tips | ASPCA

WHAT YOUR CAT NEEDS (WHAT YOUR PET NEEDS) pdf

If you notice that your cat likes to play with the water in his water bowl, slaps or even pours out water on the floor then you can be sure that he would love a pet fountain. It's the same thing when your cats like to play or even drink from a dripping faucet.

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